



ST. PRISCILLA

CATHOLIC CHURCH

FEBRUARY 21 2021



OUR MISSION:

We, the people of St. Priscilla Parish, grounded in the Word of God and Sacred Tradition, find strength and joy in the transforming power of Christ's sacrificial love as manifested in the Eucharist. We commit ourselves to lifelong spiritual formation, compassionate service, evangelization and the generous sharing of God's gifts with our parish family and the community at large.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 4:30 PM
Sunday - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
& 1:00 PM Extraordinary Form
Monday, Tuesday, Friday - 8:00 AM
Thursday - 7:00 PM
Holy Days - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Tuesday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Wednesday 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM
3rd Sunday of Month 10 AM - 1:00 PM

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday - immediately following
8:00 AM Holy Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Adoration - All day
Benediction & Repose - 7:00 PM

WEDDINGS

Please contact the Parish Office a minimum of six months prior to the wedding date.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday - 3:30 PM
Friday (During Lent) 6:00 PM

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are celebrated the 4th Sunday of the month. Please call the office to register for a Baptism Preparation Class.

SICK CALLS

Arrangements made by notifying the Parish Office.

PRAYER INTENTIONS & SCHEDULES

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 9:00 AM

People of St. Priscilla
 † Oreste Bologna by Graziano Canini
 † Zacharias P. Furtado by Joylan Furtado

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 11:00 AM

Carmen Armenti by Yurgil Family
 † Albert & Lottie Ricer by Ellen Bishop
 † Gerald Horan by wife, Bernadine

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1:00 PM

†

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 8:00 AM

† Oreste Bologna by Graziano Canini

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 8:00 AM

† Dorothy Skowronek by husband, John

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 7:00 PM

† Peppino Seu by Silvana Carta

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 8:00 AM

† Carol Castrovinci by Silvana Carta

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 4:30pm

† Joesphine Vandervennet (2nd Anniversary) by Family
 † Edwin Grodus (2nd Anniversary) by wife, Joan
 † Mary Kearney by MJ & Larry Lafer
 † Martha Novotny by Al & Diane Novotny

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 9:00 AM

People of St. Priscilla
 † Deceased Ushers
 † Poor Souls in Purgatory

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 11:00 AM

† Pearl Lark by Connie lark
 † Oreste Bologna by Graziano Canini
 † Frank Papierniak by daughter, Bernadine Horan

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1:00 PM

Allan & Beverly Ipson by Robert Wenderski



Deserts are difficult places in which to survive. The conditions in a desert are quite unlike what most of us know as normal. But the

desert has always been seen as a place of spiritual enlightenment, where human beings have profound awakenings and encounters with the Divine. Lent invites us into the desert. As the Spirit drove Jesus into the desert, so the Spirit drives us into that same place of peace filled scarcity. We live a simpler, more reflective life hoping to confront the demons that bind us to our weakness and imperfections.

Excerpts from *Adjust to Scarcity* by Rev. Mark Suslenko ©LPI

PRAYER INTENTIONS

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Week 1 Ned Rice, Concetta Russo, Kenneth Ricer, Connie Lark

Week 2 Pete Arciero, Antonio Gabbana,

Week 3 Diane Novotny

Week 4 Karen Kelley O'Brien, Sally Hutsko



PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

Fr. Albert Cylwicki, CSB, Paula Atherton-Bishop, Scott Wagner

PRAY FOR OUR SERVICEMEN & WOMEN

Natalie Yurgil-Coast Guard, Benjamin Schmidt-Air Force
 Brent Vann-Army, Brian Golonka-Army, Jacob Stanton-Marines

INTENTIONS SECTION HAS CHANGED

To have someone enrolled on the prayer list, please call the church office at 248-476-4700. Names of the sick will be listed for one month unless the office is notified that the condition continues and that prayers are still needed.

SERVICE MEMBER FAMILIES

Call us to add your ACTIVE DUTY spouse, child or grandchild.

DATE	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
FEB 27 4:30pm	Tom Janeczko	John Gallagher Susan Stencel
FEB 28 9:00am	Dawn Nakamura	Lorna Mattson Marge Kelley
FEB 28 11:00am	Monica Nelson Pat Kidd	Annette Haapala Dawn Marie Mays
FEB 28 1:00pm	Extraordinary Form (Latin Traditional)	

USHER SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 2021

SATURDAY TEAM B

SUNDAY TEAM A

MARY'S HELPERS February –March 2021

02/23 Sylvia DeBrincat & Irene Zabowski
03/02 Rose Marie Schmidt & Amy Golonka
03/09 Cathy Karasinski
03/16 Vi Hanis & Dorothy Iannarelli

"I will go peaceably and firmly to the Catholic Church for if faith is so important to our salvation, I will seek it where true faith first began, seek it among those who received it from God Himself."

-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Director of Religious Education
Alyssa Choraszewski
dre@saintpriscilla.org

PLEASURABLE SUFFERING?

We don't hear it this way in Mass, but today's Gospel reading comes right after the Baptism of Jesus: *"On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.' At once the Spirit drove him out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan (Mk 1:10-13a)."* The same Spirit that descended like a peaceful dove then all at once drove Jesus in the desert to be tormented by the devil for 40 long days.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church 1693 states: Christ Jesus always did what was pleasing to the Father, and always lived in perfect communion with him. However, we say that God does not find pleasure in our suffering. Perhaps we should dig a little deeper into the temptation of the devil in the desert to fully understand what is going on.

When we are struggling, our first question is often "why." Why did we lose the one we love? Why didn't our friendship last? Why do people lose their jobs when they are already struggling financially? Can I call it funny?—funny that we always ask this question but we almost never get the answer to it. Yet we still come back to it. This leaves me to wonder if Jesus asked why the Spirit drove him into the desert to begin with (especially after coming down on him so majestically in the Jordan). But the only time we hear Jesus questioning God is when he is hanging on the cross.

So then the temptation in the desert must have been pleasing to God...which means that we must also endure suffering that is (in some way unknown to us) also pleasing to God. What I mean is this: suffering, a consequence of original sin, acquires a new meaning; it becomes a participation in the saving work of Jesus (CCC 1521). Suffering can be pleasing when it is part of the redemptive work of Christ.

We must shift our focus. Rather than focusing on the struggle of the moment—the struggle of temptation in the desert (whatever that desert is for us), we should focus on Jesus working through our troubles for our own salvation. Moreover, we should be thinking beyond our time of death. Yes, when we die we have that initial judgment. But are we thinking about that final judgment? The rest of eternity? Is that on your radar as you are being tempted by the devil in the desert? For lent, your temptations may be 40 days which in time-speak is barely a blink of the eye. But perhaps you are in that desert for half a year, a whole year, or maybe even a decade or more. The struggle here on earth seems long but the end goal of spending eternity in God's love can make those temptations and struggles a little more bearable. Bearable only with Christ's help of course.

This lent, no matter what you are fasting from, cling tight to Christ. If he can be led by the Spirit to be tormented by the devil himself, never ask why, AND tell the devil to leave him alone then you can too! Lent is one of the many reasons the Catholic faith is so beautiful. As Catholics, we go beyond simply fasting and take the journey with Christ through his suffering. By uniting our suffering with his, we find strength and hope in the salvation to come...which is pleasing to the Father.



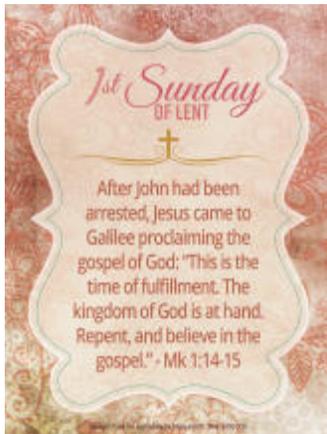
Bible Study
 with
Mary Rice
is Returning!

Area of Study:
 Gospel of Luke

When: Wednesday's at 1:30pm beginning March 3

Where: On any device that you can watch Facebook-Live videos

How: A pacing guide will be uploaded to Facebook and the parish website at the end of February. Each week, you can submit questions ahead of time or during the live that you would like Mary to answer. Pacing guide will include questions for contemplation and vocabulary for the week. Access to the study will be available on parish website after live-stream is completed.



READING 1

Gn 9:8-15

God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you: all the birds, and the various tame and wild animals that were with you and came out of the ark. I will establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood; there shall not be another flood to devastate the earth."

God added:

"This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come, of the covenant between me and you and every living creature with you: I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the covenant I have made between me and you and all living beings, so that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all mortal beings."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior.

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old. In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O LORD.

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Good and upright is the LORD, thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and he teaches the humble his way.

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

SECOND READING

1 Pt 3:18-22

Beloved:

Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit. In it he also went to preach to the spirits in prison, who had once been disobedient while God patiently waited in the days of Noah during the building of the ark, in which a few persons, eight in all, were saved through water. This prefigured baptism, which saves you now. It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers subject to him.

Verse Before the Gospel

Mt 4:4b

One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

GOSPEL

Mk 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

THE WORD OF GOD AS THE BREATH OF LIFE

By: Mary Rice

The story of Noah in the book of Genesis is often considered to be a charming children's story, featuring a group of many animals: *...every living creature that was with you; all the birds, and various tame and wild animals...* (Gen.9:8). Sometimes a rainbow is the featured theme, giving no hint of its promise of love and protection.. These images take precedence over the word of God while the message has been lost or ignored. What a shame! Today a word has been repeated five times in the Genesis reading. When this happens in the Bible you can be certain that it is very important; God is saying: "Pay attention!". The word is COVENANT. This is not a simple agreement or promise; it is solemn, binding, and permanent—and often accompanied by a sign of some kind.

Peter in his intense life of bringing Christian faith to new converts (who are now awaiting Baptism in the Church) gives a perspective on Noah in his first letter. He tells about the eight persons who...were *saved through water*. *It is not a removal of dirt from the body (IPet.3:20)* Those baptized in Christ are a new creation and are resurrected into life eternal . Later Paul rejoices: For as many of *you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ* (Gal,3:27). The **Covenant** has been renewed!

Our third child, Ned, was not expected to live past the first day and, unknown to me, my husband dashed out of the hospital to find the nearest church. The pastor came to the Critical Care room and baptized him on the spot. Ned's health was restored and six months later he was taken to the parish for the "ceremonies" of Baptism, but not for rebaptism. *Given once for all, Baptism cannot be repeated.* (CCC#1272).

The Catechism tells us that Baptism is sometimes called the Enlightenment. The candles held by the godparents would be symbols of that name, but I think that the joy radiating from all the participants is a sharing in the Enlightenment as well. The graces of the sacrament that pour forth on the baptized and are available in prayer for a lifetime light up our lives!

Lent could be a time of remembering the Light—and the Covenant!

Genuflecting & Kneeling

Question: Does it matter what leg you kneel on when genuflecting?

Answer: Genuflection is an act of devotion that literally means "to bend the knee." For many Catholics, it's an almost automatic gesture that we perform before entering our pew or seats at Mass. Like many of the symbols and gestures of our faith tradition, genuflecting can be an invitation for deeper reflection. The "bending of the knee" is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. The practice dates back to the time of Alexander the Great, but it became a common part of etiquette in the royal courts of the Middle Ages.

From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting becoming part of the devotional lives of Christians. Using this gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings, especially in the Eucharist. In our tradition, many have been taught to genuflect by placing their right knee on the ground, there is no prescribed way to genuflect, especially if physical limitations or age make certain movements difficult for us.

Today, Catholics are asked to genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (*whether in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar during Eucharistic Adoration*). So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering the pew or seat in church, look to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept in each church or chapel we visit, and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. In churches or chapels in which the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar. ©LPI

READINGS OF THE WEEK

MONDAY 02/22	1 Pt 5:1-4•Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]•Mt 16:13-19
TUESDAY 02/23	Is 55:10-11•Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]•Mt 6:7-15
WEDNESDAY 02/24	Jon 3:1-10•Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]•Lk 11:29-32
THURSDAY 02/25	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25•Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [3a]•Mt 7:7-12
FRIDAY 02/26	Ez 18:21-28•Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]•Mt 5:20-26
SATURDAY 02/27	Dt 26:16-19•Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]•Mt 5:43-48
SUNDAY 02/28	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18•Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]•Rom 8:31b-34•Mk 9:2-10

FIRST WEEK OF LENT

AROUND THE PARISH

St. VINCENT de PAUL

PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

Rice & Noodle side dishes, Saltine crackers & Paper towels.

Your continued support of our work in this community is appreciated.

Being an Usher - During the Year of COVID-19

The pandemic has certainly changed our lives in many ways. Our Usher Team availability has declined and we hope you will consider joining our ministry. Male or female ages 16+, we encourage you to join us in service to St. Priscilla during the mass.

To find out more about what we do or to update your availability, please call Bud Flemming at 248-861-9921 or the parish office at 248-476-4700.



Observances for the Week 02/21

Sunday: FEB 21:

1st Sunday of Lent

Monday: FEB 22:

The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

Tuesday: FEB 23:

St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

Polycarp was a Christian bishop of Smyrna. He died a martyr, bound and burned at the stake, then stabbed when the fire failed to consume his body.



FEB 16th UPDATE

Pledged \$46,565

Target \$43,505 Paid to Date 42,111

Pledge Balance to be Paid 4,454

Thank you to our 175 generous donors. The AOD will refund any excess paid over the Target amount. When the remaining pledges of \$4,454 are paid, St. Priscilla will receive a \$3,060 refund!

PARISH NURSE MINISTRY

by: Deborah Hachey, RN

Laryngitis is an inflammation of the larynx. It may result from upper respiratory tract infection or by direct irritation from inhalation of dust, smoke, irritating gas, allergies or foreign objects. Your doctor will treat laryngitis according to the cause. Understanding the following signs of laryngitis to get immediate treatments and prevention.

Symptoms of laryngitis can include hoarse voice, sore, dry or tickly throat, painful swallowing, fever and cough. Hoarseness and loss of voice may worsen at first and last for up to a week after other symptoms are gone. Laryngitis is commonly caused by a viral infection, such as a cold or flu. Bacterial infection may also cause laryngitis although it is rare. You can also get laryngitis if you strain or overuse your voice by yelling or after long periods of talking, shouting or singing.

Laryngitis is said to be chronic or long term when it lasts for more than 3 weeks. Chronic laryngitis is usually caused by smoking, excessive alcohol use, irritants such as fumes, dust or chemicals. It can also be caused from reflux..

Laryngitis will usually get better on its own, you don't need to see your doctor. However, if you have trouble breathing, your lymph nodes are swollen or your symptoms last longer than 2 weeks, see your doctor.

Laryngitis is short-term does not require treatment. As the cause is viral, you won't need antibiotics as antibiotics do not kill viruses. You can do the following to help your voice recover:

Drink plenty of fluids, avoid smoking, gargle with warm water, inhale steam to help a blocked nose. Most importantly you need to rest your voice by talking as little as possible and avoid shouting.

Avoid nasal decongestants they will make your throat drier.

If your symptoms have not improved after two weeks, see your doctor as you may need medication.

Jesse L Brown FEBRUARY Black History Month



1926-1950

When he was six years old, his father took him to an air show, an experience that gave him an intense interest in flying. He enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve July 1946, was admitted to the aviation program and later becoming the first African-American aviator in the United States Navy. By the outbreak of the Korean War, he had gained a reputation in the squadron as an experienced pilot and capable section leader. Brown was a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, and was the first African-American naval officer killed in the Korean War after having flown 20 combat missions.



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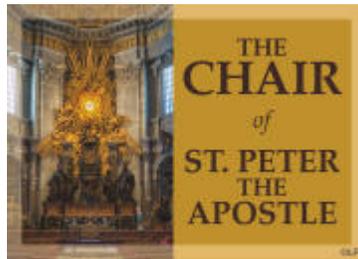
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Lee Curtis 248-477-3424

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Joe McCallion (GK) 313-378-0249



The Feast of the Chair of St. Peter commemorates Christ's choosing Peter to sit in his place as the servant-authority of the whole Church. Jesus told Peter that "you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church." It is with this pastoral responsibility given him that the Pope shepherds Christ's flock. Encased in bronze by the greatest sculptor of the 17th Century, Gian Lorenzo Bernini, the wooden throne contains ancient relics from the early centuries of Christianity. The throne was given to Pope John VIII by the Holy Roman Emperor Charles the Bald in 875. As Pope emeritus Benedict XVI said in 2012, the Chair is "a symbol of the special mission of Peter and his Successors to tend Christ's flock, keeping it united in faith and in charity."

GOSPEL MEDITATION

1st Sunday of Lent

St. Oscar Romero said, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the "idol of the self," keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It's not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn't just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. "Being more" means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the "quality" of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God's unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of "life in the good old days." Lent isn't about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It's about becoming something new. It's about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does. ©LPI